

BIRD WALK AT WHITE TANK REGIONAL PARK

October 15th, 2016



At 7:40 AM we launched our 2 hour and 10 minute birding hike from Area 9 along the Ford Canyon Trail. Skies were clear with little to no breeze and a temperature of 75 degrees F. The temperature had risen to 90 degrees when we finished. Our bearing took us mostly to the west with the sun at our backs. The desert was silent with only a few alarm calls from Curve-billed Thrashers. No spring songs on this day.

PARTICIPANTS: Fran Baughman (video), Brian and Roberta Reynolds, Cheryl Muzikowski, Dolores and Dave Sussman, Sharon Manyx, Brianne Kenny, Linda Molinelli, Vera Markham (photographer) and guides, Jerry Molinelli and Joe Ford

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail, Red-tailed Hawk, hummingbird species, Gila Woodpecker, American Kestrel (seen on power line when entering the park), Say's Phoebe (Nature Center), Loggerhead Shrike, Verdin, Rock Wren, Cactus Wren, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Curve-billed Thrasher, Black-throated Sparrow, House Finch (most at the Nature Center) (14)

HIGHLIGHT:: A Cactus Wren that kept returning to a nest in a Saguaro, seemingly adding nesting material:: a soaring Red-tail Hawk that gave us good looks::almost too much silence.

Counts and other details are at eBird <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S32056309>

Twelve people attended the program on "Owls and Vultures" at the Nature Center